

REMARKS

With the cancellation of claims 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16, claims 1 to 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15 are pending in the present application. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration, in view of the following remarks, is requested.

Claims 1 to 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,681,110 ("Crookham"). It is respectfully submitted that Crookham does not anticipate these claims for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 as presented relates to an industrial controller for at least one of a machine tool, a robot and a production machine, the industrial controller including: (1) a converter which associates predefined operating states, of the at least one of the machine tool, the robot and the production machine, on an individual operating-state basis to respective at least one of messages and alarms so that, if one of the predefined operating states is present, a notification about which of the predefined operating states is present is sent to a predefined distribution group, the notification including at least one of an SMS message and an e-mail, and (2) a table which associates each of the predefined operating states with: i) a respective distribution group to whom the notification is to be sent, and ii) information to be included in the notification. Claim 1 as presented recites that after one of the predefined operating states is detected, the respective at least one of message and alarm associated with the one of the predefined operating states is sent via the notification to the respective distribution group associated with the detected predefined operating state, the respective at least one of message and alarm including the information associated with the detected predefined operating state. Claim 1 as presented further recites that *the table associates at least two of the predefined operating states with a different respective distribution group.*

It is respectfully submitted that the Crookham reference does not disclose, or even suggest, *a table that associates at least two predefined operating states with a different respective distribution group,* as provided for in the context of claim 1, as presented. Instead, Crookham refers to a confirming email or fax that is sent in response to schedule request sent by the customer, and to a web site with an appropriate user interface (see col. 8, line 47 to col. 9, line 3), but neither the sending of the confirmation email/fax, nor the website user interface, involve different distributions groups or an association of predefined operating states with a different respective distribution group.

By contrast, the presently claimed subject matter provides, for example, that an SMS and/or an e-mail is sent to the persons assigned to the individual operating state as a function of occurring states at a machine. For instance, if state A occurs, person X and

person Y are informed by an e-mail, whereas when a state B arises, person V and person Z are informed by e-mail. Accordingly, as recited in claim 1, a table is provided, which associates at least two predefined operating states with a different respective distribution group. In this regard, Crookham in no way discloses or suggests such a table. This is because Crookham makes no reference to different distribution groups to which a message is sent upon the occurrence of respective associated operating states.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Crookham does not anticipate claim 1, as presented, and therefore claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 9, 11, 13 and 15, as presented, recite features essentially analogous to claim 1, and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Claims 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16 have been canceled, and therefore the rejections of these claims is now moot.

In summary, claims 1 to 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15 are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejections of these claims is therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative, Michelle Carniaux at 212-908-6036 for any issues still outstanding in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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